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After the death of the animals, and their bodies and tubes have macerated from the surface of the polypidom, their bases upon the areolæ of attachment have an irregular stellate or lobate appearance, which penetrate in a convergent manner to the nuclear twig or branch. The decaying mass has a strong odor in a remarkable degree like that of putrid fish.

The animal is not so irritable as *Plumatella*, but is like it capable of entirely retracting within its tube, in which state the stomach appears transversely wrinkled.

The ova as they are detached from the mass rise near, or to the surface of the water and float.

There is probably some confusion existing in the distinction of the genera *Cristatella* and *Alcyonella*, as characterized by Cuvier, Lamarck, Allman, &c., but, if correct, then *C. magnifica* would belong to a new genus between *Cristatella*, *Cuv.*, and *Alcyonella*, *Lam.*, for while the polyp and its ovum correspond to the former, the polypidom corresponds to the latter. Should it prove distinct I propose for it the name *Pectinatella*.

Dr. Leidy further stated as follows :

The female *Gordius*, which he had mentioned at the last evening as having extruded from September 25th up to that time a cord of ova 49 inches in length, had continued the process until Sunday evening, October 7th, up to which time it had expelled in fragments from a few lines to one foot in length, in all a cord 91 inches long, in which he estimated there were over 6,000,000 ova. Dr. L. exhibited the cord of ova preserved in alcohol, which was long and white and resembled a piece of cotton thread.

September 23d.

Vice President BRIDGES in the Chair.

A letter was read from the Linnean Society of London, dated June 5th, 1851, acknowledging the receipt of numbers 6 and 7, Vol. 5, of the Proceedings of the Academy.

Dr. McEuen exhibited a specimen of the fruit of *Paullownia imperialis*, from the garden of Mrs. J. B. Smith of this city.

September 30th.

Vice President BRIDGES in the Chair.

The committee to which was referred the continuation of Dr. Le Conte's paper on the Longicorn Coleoptera of the United States, reported in favor of publication in the Journal.

The committee to which was referred Mr. J. D. Dana's paper, read 16th inst., reported in favor of publication in the Proceedings.